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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/627,025	07/25/2003	Akitoshi Kitazawa	ALPINE.028AUS	3683

7590 10/06/2006
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EXAMINER

CAVALLARI, DANIEL J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2836

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/627,025	Applicant(s) KITAZAWA, AKITOSHI	
	Examiner Daniel J. Cavallari	Art Unit 2836	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 9-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-8 and 14-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 July 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The examiner acknowledges a submission of the amendment filed on 7/24/2006.

The amendments to specification, abstract, drawings and claims 1, 10, & 11 are accepted.

It is noted the applicant has mislabeled the serial number printed on the submitted amendments to the claims, abstract, specification and arguments. Serial number 10/762,793 was listed when the proper serial number for the case is 10/627,025.

Drawings

The previously made objection to the drawings has been withdrawn in view of the replacement drawings received on 7/24/2006. These new drawings are accepted.

Specification

The previously made objection to the specification have been withdrawn in view of the amendment to claims 1, 10, & 11.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 7/24/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that the newly amended claims fail to teach the limitation of "...the release device is established within the display compartment mounted on the front or middle seat when the display unit is installed in the display compartment". The examiner respectfully disagrees and points out that the term "established" as defined by the Merriam-Webster dictionary is "bring about, effect". Therefore, the release device, read on by wire (47a) reads on being established in the display compartment as it affects the display that is mounted in the compartment. Furthermore, the release device can be considered to be both the wire (47a) and the electrical connection shown to connect the "AV interface Unit" (47) and the display (11) thereby being physically located and established at the compartment of the display.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1, 2, 10, & 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicants admitted prior art & Park et al. (US 2004/0007906 A1)

In regard to Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, & 12

- A display unit (11) for a vehicle audio/video system for displaying images (See Figure 4A & Specification, Page 4).

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- A release device, read on by the wire (47a) and the connection between the "AV Interface Unit" (47) and the display (11) (See Figure 4A & Specification, Page 4) attached to the display unit (11) and the display compartment (via the display) for producing a release signal when the display unit is installed in the display compartment and the release device being established with the display device (11).
- Wherein the brake interlock function, provided by switches (44 & 45) (See Figure 4A) disables the display unit when the display unit is mounted on a dashboard (See Specification, Page 1) of the vehicle (See Specification, Page 5) and when the vehicle is in motion; and wherein the brake interlock function is released by the release signal when the display compartment having the display unit is mounted on a rear of a front or middle seat, thereby enabling the display unit (See Specification, Page 5).

Applicant's admitted prior art fails to teach a display compartment for receiving the display unit. Park et al. (hereinafter referred to as Park) teach a compartment (94) in which a display unit (38) is inserted such that the compartment (94) secures the display unit to the seat (See Paragraphs 55-58 & Figures 1-3) in which the compartment is configured to be fit solely with a recess formed on the rear of a headrest (See Paragraph 55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the compartment taught by Park into the display system taught

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by the applicants admitted prior art thereby establishing the release device within the display compartment. The motivation would have been to provide a means to secure the display device to the seat.

In regard to Claims 3 & 13

Park teach a compartment (94) in which a display unit (38) is inserted such that the compartment (94) secures the display unit to the seat (See Paragraphs 55-58 & Figures 1-3) in which the compartment is configured to be fit solely with a recess formed on the rear of a headrest (See Paragraph 55) however park fails to teach such compartment configured to fit in a recess formed on a seat back.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to place the compartment taught by Park in the back of a seat since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Japikse*, 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950). The motivation would have been to place the display at a location convenient for viewing of the passengers.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicants admitted prior art, Park et al., & Yoshioka (US 6,351,705).

Incorporating all arguments above of the apparatus for releasing a brake interlock function of a vehicle display system, applicant's admitted prior art fails to teach a display unit in which a function of a navigation system is unaffected by the block interlock function. Yoshioka teaches a vehicle navigation and entertainment display

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system for a vehicle (See Column 1, Lines 5-11 & Column 3, Lines 26-41) in which the driver is restricted in regards to the options of the display device available while the vehicle is in motion (See Column 4, Lines 18-61) wherein a function (display) of the navigation system is unaffected by the block interlock function.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the navigation system as taught by Yoshioka into the vehicle display device of the applicant's admitted prior art. The motivation would have been to aid in the navigation of the driver while allowing the driver to view the navigation system while driving but prohibiting other viewing that could pose as a distraction.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-8 & 14-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable, for reasons indicated in the non-final office action, if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Cavallari whose telephone number is (571)272-8541. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571)272-2800 x36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Daniel Cavallari

October 2, 2006



BRIAN SIROIS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2836